

R E M A R K S

Status of the claims

Claims 1-4 and 6-9 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowed claim 5 and claims 5 and 10 have been canceled. No new matter has been added by way of the above amendments.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4 and 6-10 remain been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Tachibana et al. U.S. '357. The Examiner asserts that Tachibana et al. U.S. '357 teaches at column 7, lines 46-51, protective films (1) and (2) that are 60 μ m thick that vary thickness by \pm 3%, such that relationship required by the instant claims of $0.85 M1 < M2 < 1.2M1$. In response to Applicants' arguments. the Examiner takes the position that if the two films used in Tachibana et al. are made from the same original sheet that $M1$ will necessarily equal $M2$ and the relationship $0.65 M1 < M2 < 1.55M1$ will be satisfied.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 5, which the Examiner indicates as being allowable. As such, the rejection has been rendered moot and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

As the above Remarks address and overcome the rejections asserted by the Examiner, withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the present application he is requested to contact MaryAnne Armstrong, PhD (Reg. No. 40,069) in the Washington DC area, at (703) 205-8000.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated:

JUL 14 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By _____
MaryAnne Armstrong
Registration No.: 40,069
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant